Our Lady of Grace Catholic Infant School

"We are Learning to Grow and Love Like Jesus"

Diocese of Westminster
London Borough of Brent

EARLY YEARS FUNDED ENTITLEMENT POLICY

What is Early Years Funded Entitlement?

All 3 and 4 year olds are eligible to access up to 15 hours Universal Early Years Funded Entitlement (EYFE) a week (up to a maximum of 570 hours per year). Funded entitlement is provided by the Government for all 3 & 4 year olds. This allows children to have access to good quality education and childcare within a suitable childcare provision.

Universal Funded Entitlement funding is non-means tested and provides up to 15 hours of free childcare per week for the 38 weeks of the year that the school nursery is in operation.

Our Lady of Grace Infant School offers the free 570 hours on Monday-Friday, 8.30am – 11.30am. We do not provide any year-round places, nor do we offer condensed hours on fewer days.

Working Parent Entitlements

Eligible working parents can apply for EYFE for Working Families, providing access to extended EYFE for 3 and 4 year olds, granting an additional free 15 hours per week on top of the Universal EYFE (totalling up to 30 hours weekly or a maximum of 1140 hours annually).

Please click on the link below for information of eligibility for the free 30 hours:
https://beststartinlife.gov.uk/childcare-early-years-education/15-and-30-hours-support/working-families/eligibility/

Our Lady of Grace Infant School offers 30 hour places on Monday-Friday from 9.00am – 3.00pm. We do not provide any year-round places, nor do we offer condensed hours on fewer days.

If you believe you are entitled to the additional 15 hours, you must make application through the Government's online Childcare Service: https://www.gov.uk/sign-in-childcare-account. You must provide your 11 digit code to the school to enable us to check your eligibility. You must confirm eligibility every 3 months.

The Grace Period

Where parents cease to meet the eligibility criteria for the working parent entitlements upon reconfirmation, the local authority will continue to fund a place for a limited grace period until the end of the funding block (31st March, 31st August, 31st December) if a child becomes ineligible during the first half of a funding block. The local authority can consider extending the grace period for a short time in very exceptional circumstances if the parent has been forced to leave their home and paid employment, for example, where the parent is a victim of domestic abuse or in other emergency situations.

Additional Hours and Charging

Our Lady of Grace will offer parents entitled to the free 30 hours, an additional half an hour a day from 8.30am – 9.00am, at a cost of £3.50 per day (£17.50 per week).

Following allocation of nursery places to eligible working parents entitled to 30 hours, if there are spaces available, Our Lady of Grace will offer an additional 15 hours to parents on a paid basis at the rate of £7/hour (£105.00 per week).

Invoices will be sent to all parents setting out separately the free entitlement hours, additional private paid hours, food charges and activities charges, if any.

DATED AND APROVED BY SLT: September 2025

TO BE REVIEWED: September 2026

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MRS PHILOMENA BOURNE - HEADTEACHER